

5 Reasons for a Pro-European “No” Vote

- 1** We're not voting against Europe – we're voting to wait and see what happens when people like the President of France who want this treaty changed make clear what it is we'll be signing up to. It's just the smart thing to do – wait and see.
- 2** This Treaty is going to be changed anyway – a strong signal that it can't be passed in Ireland in its current form will mean that Ireland's main concern – the bank debt - will have to be given more weight in that renegotiation.
- 3** The Treaty does nothing to help us grow our economy or create jobs – stability isn't a good thing if you're stabilising into stagnation.
- 4** A YES vote locks in the responsibility for paying the debts of German banks to the Irish people and your children. You would not force your children to pay your neighbour's debts for the rest of your life – it's not “pro-European” to ask them to pay these either.
- 5** Finally, vote NO because you ARE a European. Our politicians want you to think that being Pro-European means you must support every crackpot idea out of Brussels. They wouldn't dare call you anti-Irish for opposing a bad budget in Ireland – don't let them scare you into supporting a terrible idea just because it comes from Germany.

Be Pro-European

Be Pro-Growth

Be Pro-Recovery

**But on May 31st,
Reject the job-killing
Fiscal Treaty.**

**It's Cut the Bank Debt,
or No Deal.**

You're being asked to vote on May 31st on the European Union's fiscal treaty. Libertas is asking you to vote NO. This Treaty will force more tax increases and spending cuts that will kill growth, end any confidence in recovery, and bind future generations with the chains of Europe's bank debt.

Already the French President and the German Parliament have made clear they want changes. Add your voice to the millions across Europe on May 31st who want a real solution to the bank debt crisis. Remember – you're not voting against Europe. You're voting FOR a better solution than this bad deal.

The First country to ratify this Treaty was Greece – and look how it's "helped" them. We're signing up to an ESM that doesn't have the money needed to solve the crisis and hasn't even been set up yet. This is the Wizard-of-Oz Treaty. There's nothing behind the curtain except more debt for as far as the eye can see.

What does the Treaty do?

The Fiscal Treaty compels Ireland to dramatically reduce its government deficit. The problem is that it does so while offering no solution to the huge banking debt that caused the crisis in the first place – a banking debt that is ravaging all of Europe, not just Ireland. So it can't work.

If we vote YES, we are locking ourselves into years of misery with no positive reward or end in sight. If we vote NO, we're supporting those politicians in Europe who want to go down a path towards growth and renewal.

This Treaty takes us down the wrong path – a NO vote supports Ireland's friends in Europe who want a real solution to the banking debt burden.

The Treaty locks in all the pain we currently have and adds lots more on top – and it doesn't even address the main problem – our crippling bank debt. We know we need to make hard decisions – but we want those hard decisions to pay off in the end. This Treaty won't work.

Is voting NO not a huge risk?

This is a European issue – not just an Irish one. The question is not "will Europe be angry?" The question is "whose side in Europe are we on?" The YES side want to stick on the path that has us where we are today – huge bank debt that our children have to pay, and no jobs for them to pay it with.

The YES posters say "stability treaty". They're not lying – it is a stability treaty. It will stabilise and lock us into the same failed policies of the past five years. A NO vote tells your politicians you want a different approach that tackles the bank debt and lays the foundations for real growth.

What's the greater risk for you and your family? Is it some politicians in Germany being annoyed at Enda Kenny, or is it this recession being locked in so that your children and grandchildren have no hope of finding work here? Don't think in the short term – this Treaty is an awful idea, so let's have the courage to say NO.

Is there a better deal?

There's always a better deal. The same people telling you now that there is no

better deal told you the same during the Lisbon campaigns – and look how valuable the tax guarantees your NO vote won are now. If we had listened to them, not only would our economy be as bad as it is now, but we'd have the threat of tax harmonisation and no power to stop it.

They always tell you there's no better deal – but this time we know that there is the potential for a better deal taking shape in France and Germany. We're not saying NO to any deal – we're saying NO to one that isn't good for us.

It's the bank debt....

Europe can't grow while a small few countries bear all the bank debts of others. The billions we are paying Anglo is going to German banks who made bad investments in Ireland. We've not been bailed out – we're bailing out people far richer than we are. Libertas doesn't want Ireland to default – but it does want a smart European policy that shares the costs of this crisis amongst all of the European Union member states. Europe is about working together – this Treaty is about pushing all the work on to a few.

A Treaty that forces us to cut our deficit, but piles on and locks in huge bank debts isn't just hitting us once, it's hitting us twice. Not only are they reducing your family's income – they're then taking half of what's left to pay back debts Ireland doesn't owe. It's madness, and we're right to say so on May 29th.

Protect our Tax competitiveness - don't agree to a deal that isn't final.

New French President Francois Hollande says this Treaty will be changed. He wants new Taxes on Ireland, including corporate Tax Harmonisation, and Fiscal Transaction taxes that would kill jobs.

Why would we agree to a deal that might be changed after we sign it? It makes no sense. The most commonsense vote on May 31st is a strong NO. If we get a final, better deal, we can say YES the second time.

This is the wrong decision at the wrong time – say NO now, and wait till we know what we're getting in the final deal.